

2nd Annual KY Construction Career Days

**September 20-21, 2006
Shelby Co. Fairgrounds
Shelbyville, KY**



Justin Dever, a Bullitt Co. ATC carpentry student under the direction of Instructor Jesse Wales, operates a mini excavator.

The second annual Kentucky Construction Career Days was hosted by the Kentucky Construction Career Choice Council (K4C) from September 20-21, 2006 at the Shelby County Fairgrounds in Shelbyville, KY. Over this past year, K4C members have worked hard to build upon last year's successful Construction Career Days Fair.

Mark Senninger of Senninger Plumbing, Inc. and chairman of the K4C, noted that the Kentucky Construction Career Days was a “prime example of what happens when industry works together to increase the awareness of the wide variety of careers that are available in the construction industry. I want to give a special thanks to Christine Parsons of Parsons Electric, Inc. for stepping up to coordinate this year's event. Representatives from the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), the Associated General Contractors (AGC), the Kentucky Assoc. of Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors, the Kentucky Assoc. of Highway Contractors and the Home Builders Assoc. of Kentucky and Home Builders Institute hosted the event.”



Above photo: Ralph Senninger of Senninger Plumbing, Inc. explains how to handle a torch to one of the many students who visited his display.

“The whole idea of holding this type of event is to expose high school students to the many rewarding and diverse careers in the industry,” says Parsons. “From our experience last year, we were able to get exhibitors to provide students with more hands-on activities and this has made a great impact on everyone who attended.”



**Christine
Parsons**



Photo above: CarmaLee Cramer, executive director of the KY Electric Contractors Association and Tim Parsons, president and owner of Parsons Electric, Inc. talk with Casey Co. Electricity Instructor Mike True.

“This has been great,” said True. “I have made numerous contacts to help my students. My students have enjoyed the whole event and want to come back next year.”

OCTE Construction Academic Consultant Tommy Sutton was once again involved in the year long project and continued to build partnerships with industry representatives through his membership on the K4C. He was heavily involved in promoting the event to KY Tech instructors across the state and his efforts paid off. A total of 41 schools from across the commonwealth attended the two day event – 27 of which were KY Tech ATCs. There were over 1,000 KY Tech students who participated. Outstanding!

“The Kentucky Construction Career Fair was a great opportunity for our students. They could meet, see, and get hands-on experiences directly from major construction company, association, and post secondary program personnel,” says Sutton. “It was a win-win situation for the students and all the participants hosting the event. We are pleased with the overwhelming success of the fair and positive feedback from our instructors and students.”



Center of photo (l to r): Tommy Sutton, ABC Education Director Mary Jo Morton and ABC Marketing Director Teena Oaken talk to students about career paths while having fun with a battery operated excavator.



Photo below: Jurva Sizemore (on right) works to help students with tool boxes.



Juva Sizemore, a legislative liaison for the Home Builders Association of Kentucky and a member of the K4C, was in charge of ordering 1,500 “wooden tool kits” for students to assemble. The “hands-on” activity was provided as a special tribute in the memory of Murray Riffe, a K4C member who worked tirelessly in starting the Construction Career Fair event.



**Two bobcats were on site to give students an opportunity to personally operate this piece of equipment.
The equipment was provided by Bobcat Enterprises of Louisville.**

Kentucky Equipment Distributors

Brandeis Machinery & Supply Co.
Holt Equipment Co.
Rudd Equipment Co.

Hunt Tractor, Inc.
Wayne Supply Co.

Cummins Cumberland, Inc.
Process Machinery, Inc.
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bulldozer



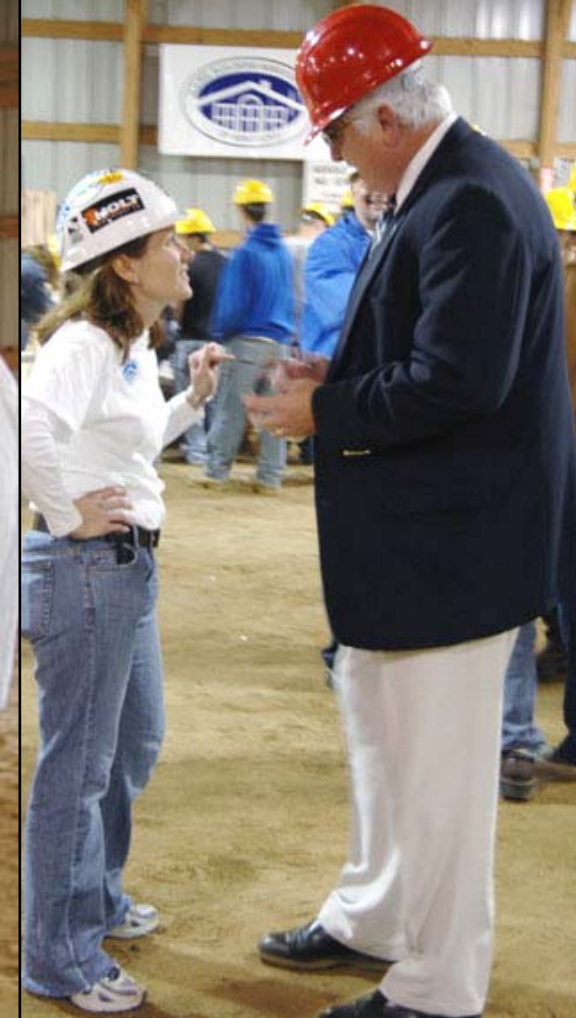
Front-end loader



Photo: KED provided
construction equipment
for display.



Senator Gary Tapp (center) visited the Construction Career Day Fair event and is shown with (l to r) AGC Legislative Liaisons John Brazel and Richard Vincent. On the right is Christine Parsons and Mark Senneger.



Photos: Top left – Monroe Co. ATC Welding Instructor Jeff Berryman, Carpentry Instructor Brent Steenberg, OCTE Deputy Exec. Dir. Lewis Carter and Lincoln Electric Representative Steve Hoenes discuss mig welders. Top right: KHBA and K4C member Juva Barber and Carter talk about the tool boxes that were provided for students to make. Bottom left: Carter demonstrates his skills using a saw while Carpentry Instructor Claude Gross of Bluegrass Technical College and K4C member provides pointers.



Photo at left: The “quick draw competition,” part of the Kentucky Equipment Distributors display, once again drew many students because of the “hands-on” aspect of the activity.



Messer sponsored the “stress ball” activity. Students used balloons and sand to create a stress ball.





Photo at left: Scissor lift

Students were given a ride on the scissor lift and could see the entire fairground.



Photo above: Gradall Excavator



Photo at left: Dale Hay, a member of the Air Conditioning Contractors of America (Louisville) Board of Directors, helps a student make a metal tool box. The activity attracted hundreds of students who had to wait in line in order to be able to make the tool box.

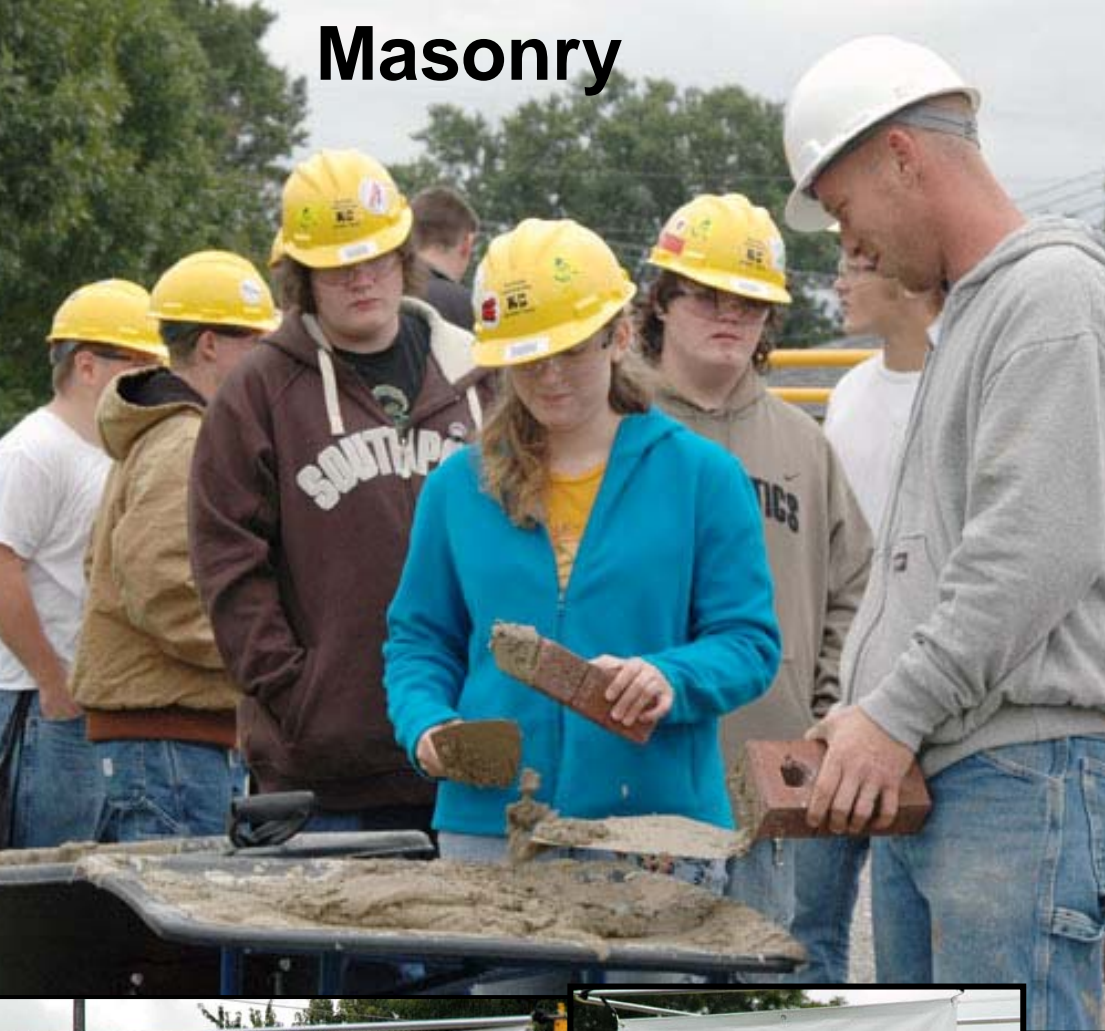


Tim Kelly and Meade Co. ATC Carpentry Instructor Jeff Gutermuth take a moment to discuss the fair.

“My students have thoroughly enjoyed visiting this fair and the contacts they have made will be beneficial to them in the future,” says Gutermuth.

Masonry

Tools





Students of Shelby Co. ATC Health Sciences Instructor Peggy Williford were at the construction career fair to take blood pressure readings.

“This opportunity allows my students to use the skills they have learned in the classroom in a real world activity,” says Williford.



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